

# SVNP NEWSLETTER, NOVEMBER, 2016

## INCLUDING MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 10, 2016 MEETING

Wayne called the meeting to order by reminding the group that the two-part December 8 program will be given by Terri Ackerman on the subject of abstract nature photography and Norm Shein on the Foveon sensor.

### Call for Programs

We currently have programs scheduled only through December, 2016. Any suggestions you may have for programs – especially of a how-to nature – would be appreciated. Please call (978-443-9226) or email Wayne ([wah@waynehallphotography.com](mailto:wah@waynehallphotography.com)) if you are willing to give a presentation yourself or if you know someone to recommend.

### Happy 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday, SVNP!

*Last month we noted in passing the happy occasion of SVNP turning twenty-one. This month we have the first installment in Betsy Moyer's memoir of the group:*

October 26, 2016, marked the 21<sup>st</sup> birthday of the Sudbury Valley Nature Photographers. Not much has changed in the philosophy of the group since those beginnings 21 years ago when 14 photographers met in the Raytheon Room of Wayland Public Library “to share informally our interest in and knowledge of photography.” We wanted no officers, no competitions, no dues, just a nurturing and sharing spirit of encouragement in which we might enjoy and improve our photographic abilities and our appreciation of nature.

The guiding spirit of SVNP for many years was photographer Budd Titlow, who actually founded the group and who led our meetings and took us on monthly field trips. Our field trips took us to almost every wildlife area of note in Massachusetts, and we even organized a trip to Utah to visit the national parks in that state. Continuing that tradition Carol Walsh and Hendrik Broekman have organized field trips, including one to Zion National Park in 2015.

By 2001 our group had become so large we had to move our meetings from the Wayland Public Library to Traditions of Wayland, an assisted living facility with a very large and welcome meeting Room. Henry Weisenberger, one of our original 14 members, donated a projector screen and window shades to the room to make it a perfect location for our meetings. The management of Traditions installed picture molding in several of their halls, and this was an ideal location for a permanent rotating gallery for members' prints.

We all started out as film photographers; there was no such thing as digital photography. We had discussions and presentations on various kinds of film, cameras, lenses, tripods, the best and cheapest places to get film processed. Around 2002, digital photography and digital cameras gained traction, and many of us switched gradually, sometimes painfully. That was about the time our good friend and mentor, Budd, moved to North Carolina. We gave him a big sendoff party, and Wayne and I morphed into co-chairs of SVNP.

*Betsy Moyer*

### **The Evening's Presentation**

Hendrik Broekman presented the third seminar in the series – this one focused on two topics requested by several members – noise reduction and sharpening.

He began by dissecting a number of works of art found in the Worcester Art Museum and around the internet, to illustrate the fundamental building blocks of non-photographic artwork – dots, lines, surfaces, etc. This effectively laid the foundation for working with the base element of digital photographs – the pixel. Through many examples drawn from his own photography, he created in the attendees a deeper understanding of the relationship between noise and a lack of adequate sharpness. He presented many scenarios for addressing both issues, mostly in Lightroom, but also in Photoshop. Many of the “fixes” involved a long series of successive adjustments, using “unsharp mask”, various smoothing techniques, the “clarity” adjustment, edge masking, and other ways of reducing noise and increasing sharpness. He stressed the importance of proper exposure

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and the use of the lowest feasible ISO setting to reduce the likelihood of noise problems developing in the first place.

Hendrik has produced a very informative and interesting handout, which can be found on SVNP's website [here](#).

Although some appeared to feel a bit overwhelmed by the volume of material presented, others (including the author) realized later that they had in fact learned a lot more than they originally might have thought.

*Wayne Arthur Hall*

### **Annual November Exhibit**

The annual exhibit at the Wayland Public Library is mounted and awaits your perusal in the Raytheon Room. The reception took place on Sunday, Nov. 6 and was very nicely attended – less than half the ample supply of food went back home. Six gallery talks were given.

Betsy Moyer explained and demonstrated her recently developed use of floating frames and canvas printing for translucent display.

Hendrik Broekman offered some musings about light and the selection of images for exhibition.

Barbara Peskin talked enthusiastically about her puffin photography. She also discussed some of the satisfactions to be derived from photography in relation to her image of a bluebird on display.

Bob Cooke related his history in photography from film in high school to digital at retirement. His mantra? "Take a lot of pictures and throw the bad ones away."

Stephen Gabeler spoke about being a nature photographer, "whatever that might be." This year, the 100<sup>th</sup> of the National Park Service, he chose to display images from federally protected land.

Wayne Hall presented a short discussion of the two photographs he is exhibiting. One of them, "Trap Falls", is from Willard Brook State Forest and the other, "The Rookery", from Lyons Cutler Reservation (an SVT property in Sudbury). They share the number *three* as the organizing principle.

### Member News

Just as a reminder, Carol Walsh proposed an early-mid January group winter photo get-together in Maine around her new retirement digs. Carol invites anyone interested in participating to contact her for details by email at [clesliewalsh@hotmail.com](mailto:clesliewalsh@hotmail.com)

Joan Chasan and Terri Ackerman each write to say they will have an image in the 2017 Town Planner Calendar. The calendar is distributed free of charge each December to households in Framingham, Natick, Ashland, Holliston, Hopkinton, Sudbury and Wayland. An image of Joan's, from Ogunquit, Maine, will appear in the pages for August. Terri's image, "Heron in Shimmer" will appear on the cover. Congratulations to both!

### New Book by Budd Titlow

**Budd Titlow's** new book, *Protecting the Planet: Environmental Champions from Conservation to Climate Change*, is scheduled for release on November 15. Budd was, with Betsy Moyer, a cofounder of SVNP in October, 1995. On receipt of a copy of the newsletter, he emailed a greeting back, "Thank you very much for plugging our book!

You are doing a great job with the newsletter.

Plus, it's heart-warming to read about how SVNP is still going strong after 21 years.

Please give my best to everyone!"

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## **December Previews**

### **Making Abstract Art from Nature Photos**

How do you make "abstracts" from nature photos? Sometimes it's just ready to go – you just have to see it. Other times you may need to zoom way in, rotate, or make crazy mistakes. This short talk will show examples based on Monet and Chihuly; from ice, sky, and water; and from Tierra del Fuego, Israel, Seattle, and our local area.

*Terri Ackerman*

### **Sigma Cameras - Now for Something Completely Different**

I will bring my three Sigma cameras and briefly describe their Foveon sensors, which are unique to these cameras. I will be showing photos taken by each camera. I will also provide internet references for those people who want to know more.

*Norm Shein*

## SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING SVNP PROGRAMS

Dec. 8, 2016                      Terri Ackerman: Making Abstract Art from  
Nature Photos  
Norm Shein : Sigma Cameras – Now for  
Something Completely Different

**Please Note - All meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the  
month, at 7:00 pm, at the following location:**

Community Room  
Newbury Court  
80 Deaconess Road  
Concord, MA

Directions may be found at the link immediately below

[http://svnp.homestead.com/files/Directions to Newbury Court.pdf](http://svnp.homestead.com/files/Directions%20to%20Newbury%20Court.pdf)

### **Lower Garage Parking**

Although Newbury Court wants to extend hospitality to Sudbury Valley Nature Photographers to the greatest extent possible, there is concern that the Lower Garage is being opened unnecessarily for SVNP members on our meeting nights. Because Newbury Court is always concerned about security, if no one is using the garage, Newbury Court would prefer to keep it closed. If, however, SVNP members use it regularly or when the weather is bad – snow, rain, etc. – the garage can be opened at those times. Please let Betsy Moyer know (bmga@aol.com) your wishes. Newbury Court will be guided by the members' responses.

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# SVNP EXHIBIT CALENDAR

## Group exhibits

Ongoing	Newbury Court - Community Room, 80 Deaconess Road, Concord, MA rotating exhibit
November 1 - 30	Raytheon Room, Wayland Public Library

## Individual Member Exhibits

SVNP members - please notify Wayne Hall ([wah@waynehallphotography.com](mailto:wah@waynehallphotography.com)) of your upcoming individual exhibits for posting on the SVNP website.

Date	Member	Exhibit Location
Ongoing	Marijke Holtrop	Online Exhibit on the website of the Friends of the Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge ( <a href="http://farnwr.org/gallery.html">http://farnwr.org/gallery.html</a> )
Until Dec. 31	Terri Ackermann	Boxborough Library, Boxborough, MA - included in <a href="#">group show</a>

### An Invitation from your Editor

As you may have noticed, these newsletters have displayed a tendency to get longer. If having a meatier monthly read is of interest to you then, please, I invite you to send anything you may wish to contribute to future newsletters (a précis of an upcoming presentation, photos, personal news, reviews, neat tricks you find worth sharing, etc.) to me at [henkbroekman@gmail.com](mailto:henkbroekman@gmail.com). Please include SVNP in the subject line.

I especially invite presenters and members sharing images to select and submit files for illustrative purposes. I expect it would be possible to accommodate two images for main presenters and one each for after-presentation sharing. Generally, expect to see half-column layout along the lines of this example. If you have photos you may wish to share, please submit jpg files sized no smaller than 320 px wide. Submission deadline will be 11:59 pm on the Monday following the meeting. Inclusion in any particular newsletter will be at my discretion based on newsletter length, distribution file weight, current workload, etc.

*Hendrik Broekman*



*Last Hurrah; Hendrik Broekman, 2011*